

East Maricopa Regional Partnership Council
Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2015

Welcome and Call to Order

A regular meeting of the First Things First East Maricopa Regional Partnership Council was held on April 15, 2015 at the H'man 'shawwa Early Childhood Center, 18748 East Ba Hon Nah Road, Fort McDowell, Arizona 85264.

Chair Frank Narducci not having yet arrived, Vice Chair Marie Raymond welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at approximately 4:37 p.m.

Members Present:

Chair Frank Narducci, Vice Chair Marie Raymond, and Council Members Trinity Donovan, Cheryl Foster, Mara Funke, Beth Haas, Becky Henry, Bill Myhr, Mary Permoda, Emily Rajakovich, and Marin Velarde, with Council Members Donovan and Permoda appearing telephonically.

There were 7 members of the public present.

Vice Chair Raymond welcomed new Council Member Mara Funke and present Council members introduced themselves to her.

Council Member Beth Haas arrived at 4:43 p.m.

Council Member Funke introduced herself by answering a series of questions about her background and past service on councils and boards.

Call to the Public

- Mary Jamsa with Southwest Human Development invited all Council members to the Aim4Excellence National Director Credential graduation on June 24, 2015. An invitation for the event was given to the Council members with an RSVP date of June 15.
- Fort McDowell parent Albert Nelson spoke highly of the services he has received for his children from the Ft. McDowell home visitation program that has included services for children and parents. Mr. Nelson stated he enjoyed the program and thanked First Things First for funding it.
- Fort McDowell parent Imogene Hosay also related her positive experiences with the home visitation services.

Chair Frank Narducci arrived at 4:53 p.m.

- Fort McDowell parent Nina Sanders spoke highly of the services she and her family have received as a result of First Things First funded home visitation program.

Chair Narducci took over as Chair for this meeting at 4:59 p.m. and thanked Vice Chair Raymond for filling in for him until his arrival.

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of March 18, 2015

Council Member Rajakovich moved to approve the meeting minutes of March 18, 2015. Council Member Foster seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously, 10-0, with Council Member Funke abstaining since she was not yet a Council member on March 18.

Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Home Visitation Program Presentation

Cathy Quintana, Special Education Specialist with the Fort McDowell Yavapai National Home Visitation Program, provided information about their program components that target children zero to three and their families, as well as expecting parents. The program also distributes books to families every week to encourage parents to read to their children and so children can begin learning to read. As of June of 2014, they had worked with 86 families and 134 children in the community. Leila Williams, Home Center Liaison, spoke about the services she provides to the families.

Chair Narducci thanked Ms. Quintana and Williams for their presentation and also for the very much needed services they provide to the community.

2nd Quarter Grantee Data and Narrative Summary Report

a. Follow up from March Council Meeting

- Regional Director Conrad Lindo explained that he received clarification that Tempe Community Council received the Hooked on Phonics program from a donation and it was not paid for with First Things First funds.
- Regional Director Lindo stated he received clarification that the developmental screenings are listed as a secondary strategy. Hearing screenings are conducted at birth and at age two and vision screenings are not conducted until age three or on demand, which is the reason why the counts for the hearing and vision screenings were different. The grantees may not specifically be conducting the screenings themselves, but they are required to report when the screenings are conducted.

b. Health Strategies and

c. Early Learning Strategies

- Regional Director Lindo reviewed the Data and Narrative Summary Report with the Regional Council members and answered any questions they had related to the report.

Community Outreach Update

a. Community Awareness Implementation Plan

Community Outreach Coordinator Leveen reviewed the FY14-FY16 Statewide Strategic Communication Plan and goals. In response to a question from Council Member Foster, Ms. Leveen explained that FTF Chief Executive Officer Sam Leyvas' column is sent out to the Arizona Republic from the Phoenix office, with the Republic then making the decision if and where to publish the column. Council Member Haas suggested a potential partnership opportunity with leadership development programs such as Scottsdale Leadership since each class is required to complete a community-oriented project. Chair Narducci thanked Ms. Leveen for her presentation to the Chandler elementary school principals and stated he would like to expand it with more groups such as the Chandler Leadership group. Council Member Haas also suggested making contact with those areas in Chandler which are not high need for services; however, those individuals are the ones who could use the knowledge and pass on the message and support our effort. Chair Narducci said it is important for Council members to make those arrangements with Ms. Leveen to present to those types of groups, especially in light of the very positive response from

the Chandler elementary school principals. Ms. Leveen said she has already had three of those principals follow-up with her.

b. Community Awareness Budget SFY 2016

Community Outreach Coordinator Leveen presented the line item breakdown of the budget to the Council members. This represents a reduction of \$25,000 from the previous year's budget. The Council had already approved the budgeted amount.

c. Community Awareness Champions for Young Children

Community Outreach Coordinator Leveen referred the Council members to the information in order to vote for the region's nominee. With Mary Permoda attending telephonically and with the rest of the votes being done by ballot, she decided to abstain from voting at this time. Council members submitted their private ballots to Ms. Leveen.

d. Community Outreach Report for March 2015

Community Outreach Coordinator Leveen reviewed her March 2015 Community Outreach Report with the Council members and answered their questions. She also read the City of Chandler's proclamation for Week of the Young Child.

Director's Updates

a. Request for Grant Applications (RFGA)

Regional Director Lindo stated that that the Parenting Education, Professional Development for Early Care and Education Professionals and the multi-regional Home Visitation RFGA's have closed. Review teams have been set up and Director Lindo thanked Vice Chair Raymond and Council Members Henry, Foster and Rajakovich for their assistance with these reviews.

b. Grantee Contract Renewals

Regional Director Lindo stated that the renewals will be reviewed with the Finance Department in order to determine if any clarifications are needed, etc.

c. May Council Meeting Overview

Regional Director Lindo stated that the RFGA's will be voted on at the May meeting and that it will be imperative to have Council members in attendance at this meeting. He reminded the Council members that the entire RFGA process is confidential.

d. Quality First

Regional Director Lindo referred the Council members to the Quality First update which he provided as part of the packet.

e. Chair/Vice Chair Elections

Regional Director Lindo stated that these elections need to take place in the last quarter; therefore, he will provide a list of the duties to the Council members at the June council meeting.

f. Parent Seat

Regional Director Lindo welcomed Mara Funke as the new parent representative.

g. Needs and Assets Report

Regional Director Lindo stated that rather than have a full report in this coming year, the decision was made to simply have the data updated at this time in order to have the next full-blown report fall in line with strategic planning for the next three-year funding cycle.

h. First Things First Summit

Regional Director Lindo stated that there will be a short presentation on the 2015 FTF Summit at the next meeting.

Regional Council Updates

Council Member Foster stated that she attended an event at a library in Scottsdale where First Things First Chief Executive Officer met with the teachers as well as parents and children attending the Knowing and Growing program.

Council Member Rajakovich attended the Ultimate Play Date in Scottsdale assisting Community Outreach Coordinator Leveen. She stated how much she enjoyed the event.

Chair Narducci stated that he and Vice Chair Raymond will be attending the Chair/Vice Chair forum on April 24th and will report on that forum at the next meeting.

Chair Narducci announced that Council Member Donovan will be awarded the Positive Pathways East Valley Woman of the Year on May 7th.

Chair Narducci announced that Arizona was announced as one of eight states to have been named 2014 Pacesetters by the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading, cited for their efforts to begin to turn around a crisis in early reading achievement among low-income children and in so doing, to put those children on a path to school success. Chair Narducci noted that the region has the unfunded strategies of Read On Chandler, Read On Tempe, and Read On Scottsdale.

Council Member Myhr announced that April is Child Abuse Prevention month and that the Fort McDowell community will be holding their annual Baby Shower event at the end of the month where they will have speakers and give out information and other items including "diaper cakes".

Chair Narducci thanked Council Member Myhr for hosting today's meeting, setting up a tour of the facility and providing refreshments.

After votes were tallied, Community Outreach Coordinator Leveen announced that Cathy Arvizu was selected as the region's Champion.

Adjournment

Chair Narducci asked for any additional questions or comments from the Council and receiving none adjourned the meeting at 6:26 p.m.

Submitted By _____
Caitlyn Hollins, Administrative Assistant III

Approved By _____
Frank Narducci, Chair